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For immediate Release

"24 hour Phone Line to Help Small Businesses"

City announces Small Business Matters Voiceline

Cincinnati - The City of Cincinnati's Department of Community Development and Planning has established a Small Business Matters Voice Line, an automated voice mailbox to refer customers to appropriate agencies or city departments. This **352-3971** voiceline is a direct result of the newly established Small Business Division's ongoing efforts to reach out to small businesses.

One of the Division's goals and objectives is to facilitate the connection of existing and prospective small business owners and entrepreneurs with service providers of financial and technical assistance and business support. Likewise, the startup, operation or physical improvements to a place of business operating within the city of Cincinnati's corporate boundaries may involve working with any of several different city of Cincinnati departments for licensing, permit, certification, registration or government programs for financial assistance.

The Voice Line will enable small business owners to ask questions or express concerns anytime of the day or night, and they will receive responses from the specific department or agency appropriate to their needs. "The Voice Line is just one part of a comprehensive plan to better serve small businesses", said Alicia Townsend, Small Business Division Manager.